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JS 44 (Rev. 12/12)

### **CIVIL COVER SHEET**

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

purpose of initiating the civil do	ocket sneet. (SEE INSTRUC	HONS ON NEXT PAGE O	FIHISFO	KM.)															
I. (a) PLAINTIFFS Michael J. McHugh  (b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff Philadelphia  (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)  (c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, Email and Telephone Number) Robert P. Weiner, Esquire				DEFENDANTS Schindler Elevator Corporation, Caesars Entertainment Corporation, Caesars Entertainment, Inc., Caesars Atlantic City Hotel & Casino, John Does (1-5) and Jane Does (6-10) County of Residence of First Listed Defendant Middlesex (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY) NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.  Attorneys (If Known)															
										Society Hill Office Park, S 1874 Route 70 East, Che		6) 751-9702							
										II. BASIS OF JURISDI	CTION (Place an "X" in O	ne Box Only)		TIZENSHIP OF P	RINCIPA	L PARTIES			
☐ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	☐ 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government)		(For Diversity Cases Only) PT en of This State		Incorporated or Pri		PTF   4	DEF											
☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant			Citize	Citizen of Another State 🛮 🗷 2 🗖 2 Incorporated and Pri of Business In Ar				<b>□</b> 5	<b>5</b>										
				Citizen or Subject of a 3 3 Foreign Nation 3 6 5 6 Foreign Country															
IV. NATURE OF SUIT																			
CONTRACT		RTS		ORFEITURE/PENALTY		KRUPTCY	OTHER S		ES										
☐ 110 Insurance ☐ 120 Marine	PERSONAL INJURY  310 Airplane	PERSONAL INJUR  365 Personal Injury -	X 11 62	25 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881	422 Appe	al 28 USC 158 drawal	375 False Classification 400 State Re		ment										
☐ 130 Miller Act	315 Airplane Product	Product Liability	☐ 69	00 Other	28 USC 157		☐ 410 Antitrust												
☐ 140 Negotiable Instrument ☐ 150 Recovery of Overpayment	Liability ☐ 320 Assault, Libel &	☐ 367 Health Care/ Pharmaceutical			PROPEI	RTY RIGHTS	<ul><li>430 Banks ar</li><li>450 Commer</li></ul>		ıg										
& Enforcement of Judgment	Slander			☐ 820 Copy		☐ 460 Deportat													
☐ 151 Medicare Act	☐ 330 Federal Employers`			☐ 830 Pater		☐ 470 Racketee													
☐ 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans	Liability  340 Marine	☐ 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product			□ 840 Trade	emark	Corrupt de 480 Consum	Organizat er Credit	ions.										
(Excludes Veterans)	☐ 345 Marine Product	Liability	garakis	LABOR	SOCIAL	SECURITY	☐ 490 Cable/Sa												
153 Recovery of Overpayment	Liability	PERSONAL PROPER	RTY 🗇 71	0 Fair Labor Standards	☐ 861 HIA		☐ 850 Securitie		odities/										
of Veteran's Benefits  160 Stockholders' Suits	☐ 350 Motor Vehicle ☐ 355 Motor Vehicle	☐ 370 Other Fraud☐ 371 Truth in Lending	O 72	Act 20 Labor/Management	☐ 862 Black ☐ 863 DIW	C/DIWW (405(g))	Exchang  890 Other St		ctions										
☐ 190 Other Contract	Product Liability	☐ 380 Other Personal		Relations	☐ 864 SSID	Title XVI	☐ 891 Agricult	ural Acts											
<ul> <li>195 Contract Product Liability</li> <li>196 Franchise</li> </ul>	360 Other Personal Injury	Property Damage  385 Property Damage		10 Railway Labor Act 51 Family and Medical	□ 865 RSI (	405(g))	☐ 893 Environs ☐ 895 Freedom												
Li 190 Franchise	☐ 362 Personal Injury -	Product Liability	L /3	Leave Act			Act	1 OI IIIIOIII	паноп										
	Medical Malpractice	I		00 Other Labor Litigation			☐ 896 Arbitrati		•										
REAL PROPERTY  210 Land Condemnation	CIVIL RIGHTS  440 Other Civil Rights	PRISONER PETITION Habeas Corpus:	NS 34 D 79	1 Employee Retirement Income Security Act		AL TAX SUITS s (U.S. Plaintiff	☐ 899 Adminis	strative Pro iew or Ap											
220 Foreclosure	441 Voting	463 Alien Detainee		moone Security Act	1	efendant)	1	Decision	pear or										
230 Rent Lease & Ejectment	☐ 442 Employment	510 Motions to Vacate	;			-Third Party	☐ 950 Constitu	tionality o	of										
<ul> <li>240 Torts to Land</li> <li>245 Tort Product Liability</li> </ul>	443 Housing/ Accommodations	Sentence  530 General			26 U	SC 7609	State Sta	tutes											
290 All Other Real Property	445 Amer. w/Disabilities -		4446	IMMIGRATION															
	Employment	Other:		2 Naturalization Application	1	•													
	446 Amer, w/Disabilities - Other	☐ 540 Mandamus & Oth ☐ 550 Civil Rights	er   13 46	55 Other Immigration Actions															
	☐ 448 Education	☐ 555 Prison Condition		,															
		560 Civil Detainee - Conditions of																	
		Confinement																	
V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" in	1 One Box Only)																		
		Remanded from Appellate Court	J 4 Rein Reop		r District	☐ 6 Multidistri Litigation	ict												
	28 U.S.C. 1332	atute under which you a	re filing (	Do not cite jurisdictional stat	utes unless di	versity);													
VI. CAUSE OF ACTION	Brief description of ca	nuse:	handra	il in elevator in hotel.															
VII. REQUESTED IN				EMAND \$		HECK VES only	if demanded in	complai	nt:										
VII. REQUESTED IN ☐ CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER RULE 23, F.R.Cv.P.		•	150,000.00	CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint:  JURY DEMAND:   ✓ Yes   ✓ No															
VIII. RELATED CASI	E(S)																		
IF ANY	(See instructions):	JUDGE			DOCKE	T NUMBER													
DATE 09/09/2015		signature of at Robert P. Wein		11 .	lest.	1. Wen	re												
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RECEIPT # AM	MOUNT	APPLYING IFP		JUDGE		MAG. JUI	OGE												

# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

Michael J. McHugh 7030 Lynford Street CIVIL ACTION - LAW Philadelphia, PA 19149 v. Schindler Elevator Corporation 20 Whippany Road Morristown, NJ 07962 NO. and Caesars Entertainment Corporation One Caesars Palace Drive Las Vegas, NV 89109 and Caesars Entertainment, Inc. 3930 Howard Hughes Parkway Las Vegas, NV 89109 and Caesars Atlantic City Hotel & Casino 2100 Pacific Avenue Atlantic City, NJ 08401 and JOHN DOES 1-5, whose present identities are unknown and JANE DOES 6-10, whose present identities:

are unknown

#### **COMPLAINT**

- 1. Jurisdiction in this action is founded on diversity of citizenship and amount in controversy; as the Plaintiff, Michael J. McHugh, is a citizen of the State of Pennsylvania residing at 7030 Lynford Street, Philadelphia, PA 19149; Defendant, Schindler Elevator Corporation is a corporation in the State of New Jersey with a principal place of business at 20 Whippany Road, Morristown, NJ 07962; Defendant, Caesars Entertainment Corporation is a corporation in the State of Nevada, with a principal place of business at One Caesars Palace Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89109; Defendant, Caesars Entertainment, Inc. is a corporation in the State of Nevada, with a principal place of business at 39390 Howard Hughes Parkway, Las Vegas, NV; Defendant, Caesars Atlantic City Hotel & Casino is a corporation in the State of New Jersey, with a principal place of business at 2100 Pacific Avenue, Atlantic City, NJ 08401; and John Does 1-5 and Jane Does 6-10 (fictitious parties as retailers), Individually, Jointly, Severally or in the Alternative. Accordingly, venue is properly placed in this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. Section 1391(a) and the amount in controversy exceeds, exclusive of interest and costs, the sum of Seventh-five Thousand (\$75,000.00) Dollars.
- 2. At all times herein relevant, the plaintiff, Michael J. McHugh is and was an adult individual residing at 7030 Lynford Street, Philadelphia, PA 19149.
- 3. At all times relevant hereto, defendant, Schindler Elevator Corporation (Schindler) is and was a corporation incorporated in the State of New Jersey with a principal place of business located at 20 Whippany Road, Morristown, NJ 07962.
- 4. At all times relevant hereto, defendant, Caesars Entertainment Corporation (Caesars), is and was a corporation incorporated in the State of Nevada with a principal place of business located at One Caesars Palace Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89109.

- 5. At all times relevant hereto, defendant, Caesars Entertainment Inc. (Caesars), is and was a corporation incorporated in the State of Nevada with a principal place of business located at 3930 Howard Hughes Parkway, Las Vegas, NV 89109.
- 6. At all times relevant hereto, defendant, Caesars Atlantic City Hotel & Casino, is and was a corporation incorporated the State of New Jersey with a principal place of business located at 2100 Pacific Avenue, Atlantic City, NJ 08401.
- 7. On the date and place aforesaid, the plaintiff, Michael J. McHugh, was a business invitee lawfully on the premises of Caesars Atlantic City Hotel & Casino (Caesars) when his right arm was injured as the result of a dangerous, defective and hazardous condition as hereinafter more fully set forth.
- 8. Plaintiff Michael J. McHugh was a registered guest at defendant's location Caesars Atlantic City Hotel & Casino when plaintiff entered an elevator traveling to the Casino floor. He put his right hand on the handrail. A portion of the handrail dislodged causing injury to his right arm, hereinafter more particularly set forth.
- 9. Plaintiff contends that the aforesaid accident and the resulting injuries and damages were caused solely by reason of the negligence and carelessness of the defendants, individually and collectively, as aforesaid, and without fault or negligence upon the part of the plaintiff causing or in any way contributing thereto.
- 10. On the date and place aforesaid, the premises were owned by, controlled, maintained, inspected, operated, managed and administered for risk management by the defendants Caesars and Schindler.

- 11. On the date and place aforesaid and at all times material hereto, there existed on the premises a dangerous, defective and hazardous condition of which the defendants knew of, or in the exercise of reasonable care should have known existed.
- 12. Plaintiff's injuries were caused by the negligence and carelessness of the defendants, as follows:
- a. Failing to maintain the premises in a safe and suitable condition for those persons reasonably expected to use such premises, including the Plaintiff;
- b. Failing to perform their legal obligations with respect to the elevator handrails;
- c. Permitting said handrails to become and remain in a dangerous, defective and hazardous condition;
- d. Failing to provide proper safe and clear access for persons allowed and invited to use the handrail, including the Plaintiff;
  - e. Failing to properly inspect and maintain the handrail;
  - f. Allowing and permitting a nuisance to exist in the elevator;
  - g. Failing to exercise proper care;
- h. Failing to Plaintiff warning of the dangerous, defective and hazardous condition;
- i. Maintaining the handrail in a condition that was in violation of the applicable Municipal and State building codes;
- j. Failing to discover and eliminate the dangerous, defective and hazardous condition; and
  - k. Failing to exercise and provide adequate risk management services.

- 13. Solely as a result of the aforesaid carelessness and negligence of the defendants, plaintiff, Michael J. McHugh, sustained bodily injuries, including but not limited to subacute right ulnar mononeuropathy at or near the elbow; right median mononeuroopahty at or distal to the wrist, right elbow soreness, right hand soreness, post surgical scarring, and numbness, tingling and aching into the small finger; discomfort at the elbow. Plaintiff, Michael J. McHugh, suffers from post-traumatic stress symptom. Such injuries have caused him great pain and suffering and will continue to cause him great pain and suffering in the future; such injuries being of a permanent nature; and such injuries having prevented him and will continue to prevent him from attending to his usual occupation and duties.
- 14. As a further result of the aforesaid carelessness and negligence of the defendants, plaintiff, Michael J. McHugh, has been and will be obliged to receive and undergo medical attention and care and to expend various sums of money and/or incur various expenses for the injuries he has suffered, and he may be obliged to continue to expend such sums or incur such expenditures for an indefinite time in the future, all to his financial detriment.

WHEREFORE, plaintiff, Michael J. McHugh, demands judgment against defendants, jointly and severally, plus interest and costs.

#### **COUNTY TWO**

The Plaintiff, Michael J. McHugh, repeats, reiterates and incorporates by reference all of the allegations of Counts one through 14 as if same were set forth herein at length.

15. The persons and/or entities are presently unknown to the Plaintiff and Plaintiff has joined John Does (1-5 Fictitious Name) and Jane Does (6-10 Fictitious Names) as Defendants herein.

- 16. On the date and place aforesaid, the Defendants John Does (1-5 Fictitious Name) and Jane Does (6-10 Fictitious Names) were negligent and careless as follows without fault or negligence upon the part of the plaintiff causing or in any way contributing thereto.
- 17. Plaintiff's injuries were caused by the negligence and carelessness of the defendants, as follows:
- a. Failing to maintain the premises in a safe and suitable condition for those persons reasonably expected to use such premises, including the Plaintiff;
- b. Failing to perform their legal obligations with respect to the elevator handrails;
- c. Permitting said handrails to become and remain in a dangerous, defective and hazardous condition;
- d. Failing to provide proper safe and clear access for persons allowed and invited to use the handrail, including the Plaintiff;
  - e. Failing to properly inspect and maintain the handrail;
  - f. Allowing and permitting a nuisance to exist in the elevator;
  - g. Failing to exercise proper care;
- h. Failing to Plaintiff warning of the dangerous, defective and hazardous condition;
- i. Maintaining the handrail in a condition that was in violation of the applicable Municipal and State building codes;
- j. Failing to discover and eliminate the dangerous, defective and hazardous condition; and
  - k. Failing to exercise and provide adequate risk management services.

18. Solely as a result of the aforesaid carelessness and negligence of the defendants, plaintiff, Michael J. McHugh, sustained bodily injuries or aggravation of pre-existing injuries, including but not limited to subacute right ulnar mononeuropathy at or near the elbow; right median mononeuropathy at or distal to the wrist, right elbow soreness, right hand soreness and numbness and tingling and aching into the small finger; discomfort at the elbow. Plaintiff, Michael J. McHugh, suffers from post-traumatic stress symptom. Such injuries have caused him great pain and suffering and will continue to cause him great pain and suffering in the future; such injuries being of a permanent nature; and such injuries having prevented him and will

19. As a further result of the aforesaid carelessness and negligence of the defendants, plaintiff, Michael J. McHugh, has been and will be obliged to receive and undergo medical attention and care and to expend various sums of money and/or incur various expenses for the injuries he has suffered, and he may be obliged to continue to expend such sums or incur such expenditures for an indefinite time in the future, all to his financial detriment.

continue to prevent him from attending to his usual occupation and duties.

WHEREFORE, plaintiff, Michael J. McHugh, demands judgment against defendants,

jointly and severally, plus interest and costs.

Dated: September 9, 2015

ROBERT P. WEINER, ESQUIRE

Identification No: 02091976

Attorney for Plaintiff

Society Hill Office Park, Suite 4

1874 Route 70 East

Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08003

(856) 751-9702

Rweineresq1@verizon.net

I certify pursuant to L. Civ.R. 11.2 that the matter in controversy is not the subject of any other action pending in any other Court.

Dated: September 9, 2015

ROBERT P. WEINER, ESQUIRE Identification No: 02091976
Attorney for Plaintiff
Society Hill Office Park, Suite 4
1874 Route 70 East
Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08003
(856) 751-9702
Rweineresq1@verizon.net

#### **JURY DEMAND**

Plaintiff demands a trial by jury.

Dated: September 9, 2015

ROBERT P. WEINER, ESQUIRE Identification No: 02091976
Attorney for Plaintiff
Society Hill Office Park, Suite 4
1874 Route 70 East
Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08003
(856) 751-9702
Rweineresq1@verizon.net

#### TRIAL COUNSEL DESIGNATION

Robert P. Weiner, Esquire is hereby designated as trial counsel for this matter.

Dated: September 9, 2015

ROBERT P. WEINER, ESQUIRE Identification No: 02091976
Attorney for Plaintiff
Society Hill Office Park, Suite 4
1874 Route 70 East
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